

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BRIDGE 01428 292315Z

70

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 AF-08

/065 W

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R 291808Z JUL 76

FM AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1194

INFO AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN

AMEMBASSY KINGSTON

AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN

AMEMBASSY NASSAU

C O N F I D E N T I A L BRIDGETOWN 1428

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: BB, CU, PINR, EAIR

SUBJECT: CUBAN TRANSIT FLIGHTS

1. LATEST CUBANA AFRICAN TRANSIT FLIGHT (AIRCRAFT NO. CU-T 671) ARRIVED BARBADOS 1925 LOCAL, JULY 28. IN CONTRAST TO PREVIOUS FLIGHTS, ALL SIXTY-EIGHT PASSENGERS ABOARD APPEARED TO BE CIVILIANS NOT REPEAT NOT SOLDIERS. ALMOST WITHOUT EXCEPTION IN DEPART AGE BRACKET, THEY HAD APPEARANCE OF OUTDOOR LABORERS.

2. IN DEPARTURE FROM PREVIOUS PRACTICE, CUBANS LEFT THEIR AIRCRAFT AND WAITED IN THE TRANSIT AREA IN SPITE OF FACT PERSONS AWAITING OTHER FLIGHTS WERE ALSO PRESENT. HOWEVER, LIKE SOLDIERS OCCASIONALLY ALLOWED OFF PREVIOUS FLIGHTS, LATEST GROUP HAD OBVIOUSLY BEEN INSTRUCTED TO STAY SEATED AND NOT TALK, EVEN TO EACH OTHER.

3. A MINOR TECHNICAL PROBLEM DELAYED DEPARTURE UNTIL 2105 LOCAL.

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RM LAST NIGHT'S FLIGHT WAS REPORTEDLY ENROUTE TO AFRICA

BUT THIS IS NOT CONFIRMED. HOWEVER GROUP'S LACK OF
JAUNTY AIR ALWAYS EXHIBITED BY THOSE RETURNING TO CUBA
FROM ANGOLA LENDS SUPPORT TO THE REPORT.
BRITTON

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NNN

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